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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of Drawings includes changes to Fig. 6. This sheet, which includes Fig. 6, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 6.

Attachment: One (1) Replacement Sheet.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend the drawings and claims 4 and 5, and cancel claims 12-21.

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's indication that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection thereto, and to be in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 12-21 have been canceled since these claims are directed to a non-elected species, and there are no generic or linking claims. Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional Application to pursue prosecution of non-elected claims 12-21.

The drawings were objected to for containing a minor informality in Fig. 6. Applicants have amended Fig. 6 to correct the minor informality noted by the Examiner. Particularly, in the attached Replacement Sheet of drawings, Applicants have changed reference numeral "22" in Fig. 6 to reference numeral --20--. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 4, 5, 7 and 9 were objected to for containing minor informalities. Applicants have amended claims 4 and 5 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Takashima et al. (JP 2003-133167).

In accordance with MPEP § 201.15, Applicants provide herewith a certified English translation of the Japanese Priority Application, JP 2003-046068, and a Declaration that the English translation of the Japanese Priority Application, JP 2003-046068 is accurate. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that JP 2003-133167 does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) because the publication date of May 9, 2003 of JP 2003-133167 is after the effective filing date of February 24, 2003 of the present application.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the subject matter recited in claims 1-4 and 6-11 of the present application is disclosed in the Japanese Priority Application, JP

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2003-046068.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Takashima et al. (JP 2003-133167).

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-11 depend upon claim 1, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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